JUST BEFORE Christmas
Excitement is mounting and all over town
Parents are trying to slow their kids down.
There are Sunday School tableaus, Neighborhood sings, And sister's play Costume needs new Angel Wings.
While packing the box For Uncle John's folks Dad gets himself all Tangled up in the ropes.
Mysterious bundles Arrive from the store And Mother is busy Behind a locked door.
It's just impossible for all to agree What goes where when trimming the tree.
Sure, we're busy, but who Can complain? Thank goodness it's Almost Christmas Again!
Where, oh where is the Christmas Card list? We all thought Him Person had ceased to exist.

Gift Suggestions

Christmas always brings the problem of what to give him or her. The best way to solve this problem is to first think of the things he or she likes to do. Then, buy a gift that will be suitable for the person's activities.

Here are some suggestions. Even if the person has one of these items he'll not mind having another one.

FOR PUZZLE WHO LIKE GAMES—cards, chess or checkers, ash trays, score pads and pencils, a card table cover, a book about a favorite game.

IF SHE LIKES TO SEW—embroidery package of stamped material complete with threads and directions, pinking shears, a sweater stretcher, press cloth and tailor's cushions, workbag, dress or blouse material, wool and needles.

FOR TRAVELERS — luggage, compact mending or cleaning kit, a camera, film, portable typewriter, travel iron, flashlight-tipped pencil or key holder, compact shaving kit.

THE OUTDOOR TYPE—handtied flies, tennis balls in tins, golf balls, nylon fish lines, ski wax, wool socks, new set of mittens for the golf clubs, bright caps and jackets.

THE GARDENER—garden gloves, shears, picking basket, a set of stakes, a new book about gardening, hand sprayer, a peaked cap.

THE YOUNGER SET—her first permanent, watches, crazy sports shirts, his first shaving kit, dancing lessons, their first piece of luggage with their names on it, start her on a set of silver, books about his hobby or some equipment for it.

Some Safety Rules For Holiday Season

It only takes a small amount of carelessness to turn the joyful Christmas holiday into a tragic event. The Christmas tree is the danger spot. There are a few simple precautions that will assure a safe and merry Christmas

Never burn real candles on your tree.

Don't risk using frayed cords and broken plugs.

Avoid placing powerful lamp bulbs near fancy ornaments, synthetic materials, paper or cotton.

Don't go away and leave your tree lighted.

Be very careful when smoking around Christmas package wrapping material.

Secure the tree by wires to the wall so that tiny tots will not be able to bump or pull it over.

Place your tree so that, standing or fallen, it cannot block a doorway which might be needed to escape from the room.

If you go in for elaborate decorations, better make sure they're all made of incombustible material. Flameproofed materials can be purchased at many stores. Insist on them.

Uncle Sam Says

This Christmas, join the Payroll Savings Plan where you work and start your regular, automatic purchase of U. S. Savings Bonds. Or, if self-employed, join the Bond-a-Month plan where you bank. You should start filling those 1948 Christmas stockings now, so that ten Christmases from now you can fill your whole family's stockings, including your own. And you will be facing the future with security and confidence. Bonds will open the door to future security and happiness.
U.S. Treasury Department

Farm Topics

Average Farm Family Sees Income Recede

Buying Power Higher Now Than Year Ago

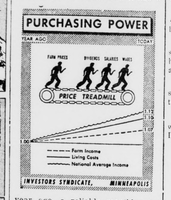
What, if anything, is happening to the average U. S. farmer with regard to the money he gets for what he raises, and does he have anything to worry about?

Although there has been a moderate drop in income of farmers, the average family has more purchasing power today than it had a year ago, a reliable monthly survey of "real income" reveals. "Real income" is the relationship of revenue to living costs.

The national figures indicate that the average home has 2 per cent more buying power than last year. Wage-earners, salaried people and those with investment income are equally well off, while the farmer is now about 3 per cent below his status of a year ago.

It should be remembered, however, that such status a year ago was at a then all-time high.

Besides the recent drop in farm prices, the survey said, it is expected that there may be further tapering off during the next six months, but farm income will continue at a high level. In the same way, although surpluses are beginning to appear in the clothing industry, there are no signs yet that sharp price breaks are likely.



Overhauling the Land

Ten years' work in rebuilding the soil-depleted 300-acre Rio Grande college farm at Rio Grande, Ohio, were compressed into 13½ hours recently by 600 workers and hundreds of pieces of mechanized farm equipment. In this hilly Ohio valley country, chief problem was removal of excess water which had been carrying away top soil. Diversion ditches and sod water outlets were prepared. Two ponds were built. The course of a stream was altered. Years of cultivation had taken much of the life from the farm's soil, so the horde of workers also attacked the problem of soil rejuvenation. Great areas were tilled, limed, fertilized and seeded and overgrown pasture land was reclaimed and prepared for seeding. In the picture, a jeep, equipped with bush and bog harrow, is engaged in mulching as part of the work done on the farm.

Santa Claus School Trains Jolly Gents

In a colonial farmhouse at Ablos, N. Y., there's a Santa Claus school and it's the only educational institution of its kind in the world.

Graduates wear white wig and whiskers, red suit trimmed in white fur, wide white belt, and black leather boots.

A course at the school prepares the prospective Santa Claus to properly shake when he laughs like a bowl full of jelly, remain calm when a child glares and yells "there ain't no Santa Claus" and maintain proper diplomatic relations with a parent who thinks Santa has given her tot the brushoff.

Tinsel

Old and tarnished tinsel can be made to look almost as bright as new by washing it in warm soap suds to which a few drops of ammonia have been added. Dry tinsel with a towel and hang it up to finish drying.

Pamplin

Pamplin, Dec. 7.- Mr. and Mrs. John David, Jr., of Richmond, spent Sunday with the former's parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Lucado.

Recent guests in the home of the Rev. and Mrs. W. M. Black were Mrs. George Bowles, Miss Mary F. Bowles, Mrs. R. Lee Woodson and little Susan Lee Bowles.

Misses Mary Rives Black and Jane Estes Martin, of Richmond, recently spent a week-end at their homes here.

Charles F. Mohler recently spent a week-end at his home in Marlinsburg, W. Va.

John Jeter Ligon, of V. P. I. recently visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Ligon.

Rev. A. J. Dodd, of Lynchburg spent Monday night in the home of his daughter, Mrs C. H. McCall.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Richardson and baby were guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Richardson last Sunday.

Rev. and Mrs. J. S. Moore and son, Stirling Hale were recent visitors in Richmond.

Mr. and Mrs. Acree Southall were visitors in the home of Mrs. I. M. Southall Sunday.

Christmas Menu

Mothers, who are the official cooks of the family, will reap added praise this holiday season if they plan a special Christmas menu for every meal on Christmas day. While "something special" is expected for dinner, a minimum of attention will make the other two meals a pleasant surprise.

Here is a menu for the day which will prove popular.

BREAKFAST

Orange Juice Waffles
Grilled Sausage Cakes
Coffee Honey Milk

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Clam and Tomato Juice Cocktail
Roast Turkey, Giblet Gravy
Celery Dressing
Mashed Potatoes
Buttered Green Beans
Calavo and Grapefruit Salad
Assorted Relishes
Cranberry Sauce Hot Rolls
Fruit Cake Pie
Coffee Milk

SUPPER

Nutbread Sandwiches
Mixed Vegetable Salad
Fruit Gelatin Dessert
Tea Milk

It's a good idea, too, to crowd a small cutting board with assorted cheeses and crackers. Place it in the living room for those who may not be able to eat candy or who don't care for nuts.

Flowers Are Part Of Yule Legends

There are several flowers appropriate during the Yuletide season which are connected with the birth of Christ by the legends of history.

Isaiahsin, or "Holy Hay," is said to have cradled the infant Christ in the manger. The snowdrop is the flower of the Virgin Mary, and is said to be the emblem of the candles she lighted on Christmas.

According to legend, the Christmas rose was divinely created. A shepherd maid wept at having no gift to lay before the Babe in the manger. Suddenly an angel appeared to her. On hearing why the maiden wept, the angel touched the ground where her tears had fallen and immediately the place was white with Christmas roses, which the maid gathered and laid in the manger.

The chrysanthemum is said to have appeared first on Christmas Eve near the manger as a sign to the Wise Men that they had reached the spot where the star had bidden them.

Women now find 2-way help for old problem

What to do for woman's oldest problem, functional monthly pain? Many a girl and woman has found the answer in CARDUI's 2-way help. You see, CARDUI may make things lots easier for you in either of two ways: (1) started 3 days before "your time" and taken as directed on the label, it should help relieve functional periodic pain; (2) taken throughout the month like a tonic, it should improve your appetite, aid digestion, and thus help build up resistance for the trying days to come. CARDUI is scientifically proud and scientifically tested. If you suffer "at those certain times", get CARDUI today.

RUBBER STAMPS: Send your order for a rubber stamp to:

The Times-Virginian.

Notice

Visit our Downtown Shop, located for the month of December, in the building formerly occupied by National Photo Service.

See our display of Christmas gifts

Christmas Decorations, Water Proof Ribbon, cemetery wreaths, potted plants, candles, flowers and Christmas Arrangements.

Place your orders now for Poinsettias

THE FLOWER SHOP

"Appomattox New Florist"

Phone 10

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See Us For Prices on Following Items

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—MORTAR	—DOORS
—BRICK	—LUMBER
—ASBESTOS SIDING	—PAINT
—ROCK WOOL	—WALLPAPER
—SHEETROCK	—TERRA COTTA PIPE
—BRICK SIDING	—PLYWOOD

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—WATCHES — KODAKS
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NOW For Christmas Gift Selections!
52-piece Wm. Rogers & Son Silver Service for eight — 39.95
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Many fine Silver selections available!
Free Coupons with each purchase :: ask about our special Holiday Offer!

WILKES, JEWELERS

APPOMATTOX, VA.

THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN

Christmas Flowers

MANY unusual and picturesque tales have been told about the modern usage of Christmas flowers. Although they are legendary, the carefully spun bits of folklore provide a colorful background for present day flower decorations which are used during the Christmas season.

Holly, with its red berries, dark green leaves and needle-like spikes is a light-hearted symbol of friendship and good will when December arrives. According to legend, though, holly originally was used as an instrument of cruelty. The crown of thorns which Christ wore was fashioned from holly. Prior to the Crucifixion the plant bore white berries but after the Crucifixion the berries turned a bloody crimson. Mistletoe, a close associate of holly, is said to have been the wood from which Christ's cross was made.

One of the most beautiful legends woven around Christmas flowers concerns the Christmas rose. While en route to Bethlehem the Wise Men crossed the path of a little shepherdess named Madelon. Enraptured at the wondrous tale about the birth of Christ which they related, she was heartbroken because she had no gift to offer.

While she was crying she detected a sweet-smelling aroma and looked up. Standing next to her was an angel who inquired the reason for her sadness. Madelon explained that while she wanted to pay homage to the newly-born Babe, she didn't even have a single, beautiful flower such as grew in the fields in the summer to give Him. The angel waved her arm and a stunning bunch of gorgeous, snowy white Christmas roses appeared.

Madelon gathered her precious gift in her arms and hurried off to Bethlehem where the Wise Men had gone. After the Wise Men's offerings of gold, frankincense and myrrh, she humbly proferred her flowers to the tiny Infant, who stretched out a hand to touch the roses. His fingers lightly brushed the immaculate petals and immediately they changed to a delicate pink.

Poinsettias which head the popularity list of Christmas flowers, ironically enough do not have any legends attached to them because of their recent introduction. In the beginning of the last century the poinsettia was introduced by J. R. Poinsett, an American politician and diplomat.

For years evergreens have flourished in homes at Christmastide to create a wooday, outdoor atmosphere. In the aged line "hang up the holly, the box and the bay" it is significant to note that two of the plants mentioned, box and bay, are mentioned in Holy Scriptures as thriving on the mountains of Lebanon in the Holy Land.

Because of its symmetrical leaves, bay has been used for design throughout the ages. The Greeks used it on their coins and the Romans, too, favored it as a beautiful show piece. Today bay shrubbery graces the entrances to many American homes at yuletide.

Cedar, which furnishes greens for Christmas, likewise existed in Lebanon. The people of Lebanon regarded cedar as a symbol of endurance, strength, life and eternity. Recognized by its characteristic, pleasant aroma, cedar also was an emblem of purity because its treetops were frequently covered with snow during a large part of the year.

An old-time favorite of sailors who visited Mediterranean ports was Rosemary because of the aromatic perfume the plant yielded. Familiar to most Americans as a straggling hedge plant, Rosemary droops in massive festoons 12 feet long in its native Italy.

Legend has it that the flowers were colorless until the Blessed Virgin, during the flight into Egypt, hung the clothes of Jesus on Rosemary bushes to dry. Thereafter, Rosemary bushes blossomed forth with their sparkling blue flowers.

The Hawthorn bush with its white or red flowers originally was the May tree of the Old World. Peculiarly, the bush never blooms in May. According to historians, Joseph of Arimathea went to England and on the completion of his pilgrimage at the Abbey of Glastonbury he pushed his staff into the ground where it burst forth leaves and flowers. Since then the Hawthorn bush always flowers at Christmastide, which is out of its regular season.

Mail Carriers Walk Many Weary Miles

LOADED . . . A familiar sight on the streets this time of year. He wishes he had Santa's reindeer to help with the load.

Give a thought to the foot-sore mail carrier, who probably trudges more weary miles during Christmas week than does old St. Nick himself.

His mailsack will be even heavier this year than in 1947. Last December, the nation's postal service delivered 3,000,000,000 pieces of mail. They expect to break that record this Christmas.

You can help spare your mail carrier's bunions—and incidentally speed delivery of your own Yuletide letters, Christmas cards, and packages—by heeding the Post Office Department's suggestions:

1. Shop now—get your Christmas mail and packages off as early as possible.

2. Wrap your gifts carefully. Address them plainly—Aunt Susie may be able to decipher your handwriting, but not all postmen carry magnifying glasses and crystal balls. Register valuable letters. Insure valuable packages.

3. Be sure to put the full address on each piece of mail. Include city zone numbers.

4. Send your Christmas cards by first-class mail. Put a three-cent stamp on every Christmas card and seal the envelopes. They are more personal that way, and if your friend has moved, the card will be forwarded. Third-class mail doesn't have that privilege.

5. Remember that Air Mail for letters and Christmas cards is only a nickel, and it will get them to distant points more quickly—especially if you slip up on Suggestion No. 1.

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FRIDAY NIGHTS

'TIL 9 P. M.

Dec. 10th. and 17th.

FOR CONVENIENT FAMILY SHOPPING

MILLNER'S

"THE SHOPPING CENTRE"

Lynchburg's Gift Centre

Try a Classified Ad

Evergreen

Evergreen, Dec. 7- Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Staples spent the week-end in Lynchburg with their daughter and family, Mr. and Mrs. Sam White.

Paul Ferguson and son, Gregory spent Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Glover and family. Mrs. Mary Sullivan, of Lynchburg called in this home in the afternoon.

Those visiting Mrs. Jimmie Evans Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Eddie Warriner, Mrs. Jeff Paulette and son, Burke. Mrs. Evans is better after a recent illness.

Hazel Cough and James Griffith, of Richmond and Mrs. Mary Sullivan, of Lynchburg spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover.

Clarence Evans, of Charlotte Court House was the Sunday guest of his sisters, Mrs. Lizzie Hodgeand Miss Blannie Evans.

Mrs. C. J. Paulette spent the week-end in Lynchburg with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. B. M. Ferguson.

Mrs. T. T. Evans is improving after a recent illness. Her sister, Mrs. Thomson, of Lynchburg, is spending this week with her.

Miss Eulalia Glover was Thursday night guest of Miss Betsy Ferguson.

Little Wanda Kay LeGrande is sick at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Tom LeGrande were Sunday guests of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. LeGrande.

Miss Bessie Ann Glover spent Wednesday night with Miss Patricia Farrar.

Mrs. J. S. Dinkins, of Lynchburg called to see Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Glover Monday P. M.

Mrs. Howard Glover and daughter, Bessie Ann are spending a few days this week with her father, A. B. Ferguson.

Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Inge and Mrs. Inez Hamilton, all of Roanoke are spending a few days at the home here.

The First Quarterly Conference was held here at the Methodist Church Sunday. A large crowd attended. Dr. Carroll is the new district superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. H. C Staples visited Mrs. W. A Staples Saturday. She is a patient in Lynchburg Hospital and is reported to be some better.

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RHINESTONE EARRINGS In The Newest Styles $6.00

RADIANT FIRE-FLECKED RHINESTONE NECKLACE $12.50

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RHINESTONE PIN AND EARRINGS SETS $17.50

Gorgeous COSTUME PINS From $6.00

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THIS EASY TO PAY ON OUR LAY-AWAY A SMALL DEPOSIT RESERVES YOUR GIFT TILL CHRISTMAS EASY TERMS PAY AS YOU WISH

BOWEN Jewelry Company

LYNCHBURG — FARMVILLE

Yuletime Thoughts

Heywood Broun once said, "Christmas is not a date. It is a state of mind."

No man lives today who does not seek, in some way, to follow a guiding star.

It was Christ who, by his voluntary acceptance of the role of servant, has been elevated to the royal purple and seated at God's right hand.

At few, if any, times since Christ was born have all the people of the earth needed faith, trust, and peace as much as they do now.

When we celebrate the birthday of Christ we ought not to think of Him only as a child. Those who think Christmas is only a festival about a child, for children, veer away from facing Him as an adult.

CHRISTMAS 'PUTZ'

The Christmas "putz" is a decorative feature in many Bethlehem, Pa., homes during the Yuletide season. It is a representation of the birth of the Christ Child in the stable at Bethlehem in Judea.

The residents of Bethlehem, Pa., follow this custom, which was brought to this country by early Moravian settlers, and spend months arranging the exhibit.

The word "puts" is short for the German "putzen" meaning to arrange or decorate.

THE CARRIER INSTEAD. IF THIS PRECAUTION IS ASSIST YOU IN RECOVERING THE AMOUNT OF CLA